

APPROVED

At the May 16, 2008 Rail Advisory Board meeting, a motion to accept the minutes of the April 9, 2008 meeting was made by Trenton Crewe, Jr., seconded by James Keen and approved by the Rail Advisory Board members. Board Member Sharon Bulova abstained due to absence at the previous meeting.

Minutes

**Rail Advisory Board Meeting
Forum Room
Science Museum of Virginia
2500 West Broad Street
Richmond, VA
April 9, 2008**

Note – At the direction of the Board and the Director of DRPT, these summary minutes will reflect Action Items and Informational Requests to the Agency from the Board.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Wiley Mitchell Jr., Chairman
Trenton Crewe, Vice Chairman
James Keen
Peter Shudtz

Richard Beadles
Dwight Farmer
Gregory Marston

Matthew Tucker, Director, DRPT

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sharon Bulova
Bruno Maestri

Call to Order

The Rail Advisory Board Meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Chairman Mitchell.

Adoption of Minutes

A motion to accept the February 5, 2008 minutes was made by Mr. Shudtz and seconded by Mr. Crewe. The motion carried without opposition.

Adoption of Meeting Agenda

The Director requested that the Agenda of the April 9, 2008 meeting be modified to move the presentation on the Rail Enhancement Fund, Proposed Program of Projects, to after the Director's Update, before lunch and the Passenger Rail Performance Update followed by the Bylaws Committee Report to after lunch. The amended Agenda of the April 9, 2008 meeting was accepted by the Board.

Public Comment

There were no public comments received by e-mail nor did anyone sign up to speak.

Director's Update

Director Tucker updated the members of the Board on the release of the findings relative to the Roanoke Region Intermodal Facility project as part of the Heartland Corridor initiative. The Director also

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reviewed the status of the Statewide Rail Plan to be presented to the Commonwealth Transportation Board in July 2008 and the Resource Allocation Plan for the General Assembly in September 2008.

Mr. Tucker requested members of the Board to provide written comments to him within the next 30 days about their views of the last Rail Plan and the issues and concerns they feel need to be addressed in the new Statewide Rail Plan.

Rail Enhancement Fund Proposed Program of Projects

Mr. Page presented the applications received for Rail Enhancement funding and the projects that the agency is recommending for Fiscal Year 2009 funding under the Rail Enhancement Fund. The Applications were posted to the DRPT website for the members of the Board and public to review.

The requirements and expectations of the REF program were included in Mr. Page's presentation. The Chairman requested Mr. Page share the Benefit/Cost material with the members of the Board, especially related to avoidance costs and savings for trucks removed from the roads.

Steve Pittard, CFO of DRPT, updated the Board on the revenue collections and funds available through the rental tax and revenue bond programs.

The Board was requested to review the Proposed Program of Projects and respond to the Director in the next few weeks so their comments may be incorporated into a final recommendation to the CTB that will be made at the May 16, 2008 Rail Advisory Board meeting.

Passenger Rail Performance Update

Dale Zehner, CEO of VRE, and Jason Maga, Senior Officer of Host Railroad Policy for Amtrak updated the Board on both passenger rail systems' performance, ridership figures and the reduction of delays.

Report of the Bylaws Committee

The Chairman requested some changes to the draft Rail Advisory Board Operating Guidelines to establish the method to elect the chair and vice chair, replacement of an officer who has missed more than 50% of the meetings during a calendar year, and annual meeting schedules. The Board input from this meeting will be incorporated into an updated draft for action by the Board at the May meeting.

Overview of Informational Items

Mr. Page provided an overview of the informational items provided to the Board in their notebooks.

Chairman Mitchell requested a polling of the Board about the possibility of moving the July meeting date.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:43 p.m. The next meeting of the Rail Advisory Board will be on Friday, May 16, 2008 at 10 am in the Discovery Room at the Science Museum of Virginia.